

Political Prospects.

National politics are rapidly approaching an important crisis. The elections to be held the first Tuesday in October will go far to fix the complexion of the next Congress. The most sanguine friends of the Administration, now, can hardly expect greater gains in the Middle and Western States than to reduce the Radical majority in Congress to such figures as will make the Executive veto effective in staying the onward progress of the fell spirit of fanaticism and revolution which characterized the legislation of the last session. If the Radicals are emboldened by their recent success in Maine and Vermont, the President shows no disposition to yield. In the mean time party spirit increases, and threats even going to the impeachment of the President and the confiscation of Southern property are freely and boldly uttered. It would seem that without compromise, civil war is again imminent.

Against this direful alternative the tending wealth of the North is throwing its mighty influence, and a compromise is being attempted upon the basis of the Howard amendment. It may be well enough to lay Columbia in ruins and batter down Petersburg and Charleston, but it is a very different thing to burn Harrisburg or bombard Portland and Albany, and laying waste the Valley of the Mississippi and the Shenandoah is not desolating those of the Connecticut and the Wyoming.

The New York Herald says that the fact that the people of the North are going to sustain Congress in demanding the guarantee of the Howard amendment from the South, before admitting members from this section to take their seats, is a foregone conclusion. This paper advises the President to let this matter alone for the future, and tells him that he has allowed his passions to carry him to a great degree of bitterness and invective, but that there is scarcely any real difference between the majority in Congress and himself. Mr. Raymond of the New York Times, and the reputed author of the Philadelphia National Union Address, and who voted as a member of Congress for the amendment, declares that "there is not one syllable in the Philadelphia Address against the adoption of the Constitutional amendment, nor against its adoption by the Southern States."

New Jersey, throughout its Legislature, has accepted it, and Tennessee, the only one of the Southern States, has been gagged into its adoption. Governor Throckmorton, of Texas, says the amendment before the Legislature of that State, with his unqualified disapproval. Gov. Orr, of South Carolina, makes no allusion to the subject in his recent message. The following embrace the substance of the amendment proposed by Congress as their policy for Southern restoration:

First: That all persons born or naturalized in the United States are citizens thereof, and of the States in which they reside, and on a footing of equality in regard to their civil rights.

Second: That the enumeration of the people for representation in Congress shall be abridged in proportion to the abridgment of the right of suffrage—males above the age of twenty-one years, in any State on account of race or color.

Third: That a large schedule of persons, civil and military, engaged in the late rebellion, shall be ineligible to any federal office hereafter until absolved by a two-thirds vote of each House of Congress.

Fourth: That the national war debt shall be held sacred, and that all rebel debts and obligations shall be utterly repudiated and held illegal and void.

Fifth: That Congress shall have power to enforce the provisions of this article.

Against this amendment President Johnson entered his solemn protest, and it was accepted by the more extreme members of the party with much reluctance, and then only because they regarded it as a stepping-stone to other and greater demands upon the South.

This amendment is now urged as the ground upon which the Moses of the North will consent to a restoration of the Union; but if they are refused, then the code of the more extreme men will be adopted, and negro suffrage will be the *sine qua non* of re-admission. The results of the late elections tell how much in earnest these Radicals are.

But on the other hand, the more recent speeches of the President demonstrate his inflexibility. After the vetoes of Mr. Johnson, and the denunciations he has visited upon the Congress, none who are familiar with his firmness and resolution can believe that he will now bend to the demands of his political enemies, and at their bidding violate his oath and surrender the Constitution into the hands of those who seem determined to destroy it.

So long as the President stands by them, the South will refuse to ratify these amendments. The spirit manifested by the Radicals only increases the prejudices entertained by the sections and reconciliation seems farther off, even if it is desired by the people of the North, than it was twelve months since. The ten disloyal (so-called) States, and at present excluded from participation in the Government, will certainly refuse to ratify the amendment, and Kentucky, speaking through her recent election, will be certainly.

So that until the present number of States, thirty-six, is increased to forty-four, these eleven can and will prevent the adoption of the amendment. Radical majorities may terrify the conservatives of the North, but will not shake the determination of our people. We cannot afford to purchase the promise of their favor by such an unmanly and disgraceful sacrifice of principle.

Nor do we believe that it is expected that the South will ratify this amendment; and we very much doubt if it is really desired that they should. If the course of the dominant party evinces one thing more than another, it is the determination to secure

the favorable issue of the Presidential election, and in order to make "assurance doubly sure," the votes of the Southern States are to be excluded. Terms of admission will continue to be offered that cannot be accepted, and we are prepared to see Congress, during the next session, exhibit the boldness which Stevens says was wanting at the last. Those men care but little where their measures may lead, be it to anarchy and war, so long as they control the Government and command the armies.

The Southern people have learned nothing from the stern lessons of adversity, or if they have, it has been forgotten already. We look in vain for any evidences of that rigid economy, that husbanding of our resources which would naturally suppose would have been the case among a people bankrupt and impoverished by four long weary years of terrible warfare. It is true that, at the termination of hostilities, there was more produce found in the country than the most hopeful could have anticipated, and that a large amount was realized thereby, but our people seem to have forgotten the fact that the amount then on hand was the proceeds of several crops which had accumulated during and before the war. The money realized from that produce, instead of being applied to the restoration of the farming interests of the country; to the improvement of agricultural pursuits, has to use a strong expression, been spent in "riotous living." The moment the war terminated, or as soon as the means could be obtained, there was a perfect *beheading* from the South to the commercial emporiums and fashionable watering places of the North. And this, too, from all sections of the country. It seemed as if our people had determined to ignore the lessons of the past, to take no thought of the future, but to live solely for the present. We thought at the time that they were a little excusable, for the reason that they had been for four years entirely excluded from the world, and that the exuberance of feeling attending that condition, like the joy of school boys released from restraint, would soon be quieted, or wear itself out. We are sorry to say that such has not been the case. Our people to-day are as extravagant as at any time before the war, and pay no more heed to the rough teachings of the past, than as if no such teachings had been administered. Gaudy equipages glitter on our streets; the hum of the spinning wheel is no longer heard, and the honest, servicable homestead has long since given way to the "purple and fine linen." We do not refer to any particular locality, and would not be understood; we speak of the appearance of things generally throughout the Southern country. Go into any of our fashionable churches on Sunday (it is not sacrilege to use that word in connection with an building dedicated to the service of the Almighty) and see the magnificent display on exhibition within its sacred walls. Silks and satins of the costliest patterns, laces of a texture so fine and delicate that a breath would almost crumple into nothing, and flowers sufficient in number and beauty to form a garden that Shenandoah might have envied. Is not all this wrong? Is it a true evidence of the condition of our people, even admitting we can afford all this style? Is not the exhibition of it, to say the least, in rare bad taste? We fear that our people are no wiser than they were, and that the sad experiences of the last four years have taught them nothing, and that Ephraim is still joined to his idols. The future looks dark and lowering enough, if there is indeed a silver lining to the cloud that enfolds us, we cannot distinctly see it. We know not what miseries are yet in store for us, if, however, we, therefore, to keep our houses in order; to practice economy in all things; to live soberly and honestly, so that we may be prepared to meet with firmness whatever trouble the future may bring to us, sustained as we shall then be by the inward consciousness of having discharged our duty in all the relations of life.

Southern Series of School Books.
The near approach of the scholastic year, renders it necessary that the teachers of the different schools in our city and vicinity should begin to supply themselves with text-books for the use of the pupils of their several institutions, and we would take occasion to recommend to them the above series, which will shortly be issued by Messrs. Owens & Agar, Publishers, 110 William street, New York, after having been revised and approved by the author, Richard Sterling, A. M., Principal of Edgewood Female Seminary.

The selections have been made, and the lessons arranged with great care, and, as is asserted, with special reference to the principles of progress. From the pages of this series everything sectional has been excluded, but due prominence has been given to home interests, literature, history, &c. To the end that the pupil may become acquainted with the best specimens of Southern intellect and eloquence, the selections have been taken largely from Southern writers and orators.

We think that the series should receive patronage at the hands of Southern schools, not only on account of the author being a Southern man, but also because he has had thirty years experience as a practical educator.

In addition to the above, the author has prepared a series of writing books, which will be found as invaluable as they are deserving.

Radical Demonstration in Baltimore.
There was a Radical demonstration in Baltimore recently, which was conducted principally by a number of late Federal soldiers of Radical sentiments, who term themselves the "Boys in Blue." A procession was formed, composed of the class named above, representing each ward of the city, which marched through some of the principal streets to Front street Theatre, where a convention of the Radical element was in session. Banners were displayed with inscriptions testifying their hatred for the President, and fanatical devotion to the measures of the Radicals in their persecution of the South.

The Baltimore American, a sheet wholly devoted to the Radical cause, speaks of the demonstration as a most brilliant affair, and

says, "that it may be regarded as a promising indication of the opening of the campaign."

There are no doubt many, even in our own State, who feel would take for granted what the American says in regard to the demonstration, but the delicate manifestations of sympathy which Baltimore has so recently shown towards the suffering people of the Southern country, are too fresh in our memory for us to believe the assertions of a thousand Radical sheets, and we feel assured, despite the manifestations of Radicalism in that city, that the majority of the people of Baltimore entertain the kindest commiseration for the people of their sister Southern cities.

Organs of the Rump Congress may continue to talk of the approaching elections, and the favor with which the people of Baltimore look upon the plans and purposes of the Radicals, but our faith in the honesty and generosity of the Baltimoreans is undiminished.

There seems to be a general aching crept over the minds, and a feeling of despondency settling upon the hearts of the Southern people. They seem to take no interest in the political affairs of the country, and indeed are fast relapsing into a state of utter indifference in regard even to the daily pursuits of life. This feeling no doubt arises, in a great degree, from our anomalous position as a body politic, but it is excited and strengthened by the daily exhibition of vindictive hatred, and an unappeased thirst for blood on the part of the majority at the North. If these evidences of malice towards us were but the ebullitions of the radical press of the country, we could well afford to despise them, but unfortunately they are the avowed opinions of the leaders of a powerful and triumphant party. These opinions have not only been publicly expressed, but the determination to enforce them at the next session of Congress has been boldly proclaimed. It would be folly to deny that our position is apparently a desperate one, and that we have good cause for being gloomy and despondent. A superficial view of matters and things as they now appear, would lead to no other result, but there is quite another and a different view to be taken, and one which we fear our people are too much disposed to overlook.

We seem, in fact, to have forgotten that there is a higher power than the tribunals of earth, who controls the actions of individuals and the destinies of nations; who have not faith, sufficient faith, in that Providence that rules the world. If we believe that all things happen by chance; that great events are but the result of accident or fortuitous circumstances, then indeed is our case hopeless in the extreme. To one who believes in the existence of a Supreme Being, all powerful and omniscient, who "rides the whirlwind and directs the storm," there is no real cause for despair. We cannot fathom the designs of the Almighty. How often has it happened, in the experience of most of us, that the failure to accomplish a certain object for which we strove most diligently, was regarded at the time as almost irretrievable misfortune, while subsequent events proved most clearly that what we then mourned as a disappointment, was in truth a blessing. We have no right to complain now, no reason to despond, no matter how dark the cloud may seem to be, there is a silver lining to it, if we but cast our eyes upwards. Let us be up and doing, and it is impossible to sit with folded arms mourning over lost hopes; let us do our duty faithfully, nonfully, with an implicit belief in the wisdom and justice of Divine Providence, and all will assuredly be well in the end.

Interview with Mr. Davis.

In this issue we publish the correspondence of Mr. John D. Kelley, to the Petersburg Index, in regard to an interview which that gentleman had recently with the patriot martyr, at Fortress Monroe. The account of the conversation with Mr. Davis, will be eagerly perused by the Southern people, and the resignation and fortitude which he evinces as a Christian gentleman and a patriot, will but increase the love and admiration which a suffering people entertain towards that truly great imprisoned statesman.

The Petersburg Express.
It was announced, recently, in the columns of the Petersburg Express, that a change had been made in the editorial management of that journal. Mr. A. G. Crutcher has retired from the editorial chair, and is succeeded by Mr. Oakley P. Haines. We regret the loss of so worthy a member of the fraternity as Mr. Crutcher, who has long been distinguished as a most able journalist. His successor, however, is highly qualified for the position, and under his management the Express will doubtless maintain its present reputation.

The Radical Convention at Raleigh.
Having published the proceedings of this Convention, we give below the resolutions adopted. Letters were read from Lewis Thompson and R. P. Dick, Esq., approving of the object of the meeting, and expressing a warm preference for Alfred Dockery for Governor.

The committee retired and after due deliberation, reported, through their Chairman, Mr. Thomas, the following resolutions, which were adopted:

The Union State Mass Meeting assembled in the city of Raleigh, the 20th day of September, 1866, for the purpose of maintaining and preserving the organization of the Union party, to the end that the State Government of North Carolina may be so administered as to secure the restoration and perpetuation of the rights, privileges and immunities of the people thereof, and their form of government in harmony with the National Government—grateful for the preservation of that sentiment of nationality which is the shield of the Constitution and the sure guarantee of Republican form of government, do, with a sincere desire for reconciliation, forgiveness and charity among all classes of American people, who were either engaged, or involved in the late civil war, resolve:

1. That only those men, without regard to their antecedents, who are "unmistakably loyal" to the government of the United States, should be appointed and elected by the people of North Carolina to any office, or place of trust or profit.

2. That, in order to secure the re-establishment of the State in the Federal Union;

the speedy restoration of all rights, privileges and immunities of her loyal citizens, and the final adjustment of the governmental relations of her whole people in harmony with the National Government, the amendment proposed by the present Congress, as article 14, to the Constitution of the United States, as a condition precedent to these ends, should be accepted and ratified by the General Assembly of North Carolina.

That, having full confidence in the justice and magnanimity of Congress that upon the ratification of said proposed amendment the disability to hold, or to be eligible to office imposed therein, will be, in every proper case, removed without discrimination as to any class or party of our fellow-citizens of the Nation of their antecedents, and that the State of North Carolina will be forthwith re-admitted to the Union, we would respectfully urge upon our whole people to consider, and demand that the same be ratified by their representatives in the next General Assembly.

That, in the present anomalous state of the country, under any provisions contained in our written Constitutions, either State or National, or precedents in American history to guide us safely in the great work of restoring the relations of a State government ruptured by civil war in harmony with the National Government, we stand now ready to co-operate without obstinate adherence to any special plan or policy of restoration, in any further or other action that in the wisdom of Congress and the Executive may be deemed necessary to guarantee to the State of North Carolina a Republican form of government, and restore the Union of our fathers.

That we profoundly regret the defection of Gov. Worth from the Union cause, his proscription for opinion's sake of Union men from office, and the injurious influence which the prominent instigators and actors in the rebellion are exerting over him in his State, and we earnestly hope that the State will be restored to the Union under his auspices; and, as we prefer principles to men, and believe the restoration of the Union to be more important and more vital to the best interests of the State than every thing else, we feel it to be our duty firmly to oppose his re-election.

That, having full confidence in the patriotism, ability, and sterling Unionism of Gen. Alfred Dockery, of the County of Richmond, we hereby unanimously recommend him to the people of North Carolina, as a suitable person to be chosen Governor at the election, to be held on the 18th of October next. Gen. Dockery is well known as a firm and unflinching Union man. He has had no connection with the causes that led to our present unhappy condition, and has been true to the Union cause. His interests as a farmer are identified with those of the great body of our people. His election in the present crisis would be a fortunate circumstance for the people of the State, and would do much for the loyal people of the North, to open the way for our return to the Union.

For the Journal.

Pork Again.
Messrs. Editors: Noticing in your issue of the 21st, a letter from one of the New York inspectors, complaining of your mentioning his brand as being on a quantity of pork received in this market direct from New York, which fell short in weight, and stating that injustice was done in particularizing him, as it was well known that pork lost in weight when shipped South, I beg leave to state the following for the information of your readers: It is acknowledged in New York that some inspectors pack pork 15 pounds to the barrel, and brand the same 200 pounds, claiming that it gains in weight after being packed, 15 pounds. It is also well known that if you buy pork directly on its arrival from the West, it holds full weight, and even runs over. But if you buy the same pork after passing through some inspectors' yard it will not hold weight—*if shipped South.*

The writer saw some pork weighed lately in New York, whose inspection he cannot say, and it fell short four or five pounds. He sent an order to New York for a larger lot of pork, only to be filled provided it run full weight, or nearly so. The reply just received says, "no pork can be obtained that will run less than 10 pounds short." Another merchant in this city received this week a like reply, "that no pork could be secured full weight." In view of these facts, and with the knowledge that pork from Baltimore and Philadelphia runs full weight, it is of no use for New York inspectors to claim that they pack 200 pounds of pork in every barrel branded by them, when to-day you cannot get a barrel of pork filled with 200 pounds of pork, even when taken from the inspection yard, and weighed there before shipment.

Very respectfully yours,

MERCHANT.

Wilmington, N. C., Sept. 24, 1866.

MANUFACTURERS.—"We are happy to learn," says the Raleigh Sentinel, "that the proposition to erect a large Cotton Factory in this city, for the manufacture of stumps, gingham, &c., has met with sufficient encouragement to justify us in calling it a success."

It would afford us sincere pleasure could we record the inauguration of a similar enterprise in our own city. Having rare facilities for communication with cotton growing sections, and situated in an excellent market, strange to say to the attention of the people of our city has not been directed to the establishment of a cotton factory in our midst. We feel assured that if the enterprise were made it would be attended with great success.

The people of the South have never been distinguished as a manufacturing people, and have hitherto manifested a strange indifference in regard to this particular branch of industry.

By the results of the war, thousands are reduced to poverty, and with a population who would be pleased to serve as operatives, oil prejudices have been so deeply seated, as to prevent the way of our becoming a manufacturing as well as a commercial and agricultural people. In our own city there are hundreds of penniless widows and orphans who are compelled to labor from morning to night in order to gain a sustenance, and are even too thankful when they can obtain employment. Unless something is done for their relief no doubt many of them will die of starvation during the winter. If but one manufactory was established in this vicinity, it would greatly relieve the distress which prevails among the poorer class.

It is full time the Southern people should rely more upon themselves, and to this end we urge the establishment of factories, not only in our own city, but throughout the South.

IMPORTANT TO COTTON PLANTERS.—The Superintendent of the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad Company has been notified by the Collector of Internal Revenue, that Cotton in the Second Congressional District may be sent to this city without the payment of the Government tax. Planters will now be enabled to ship their Cotton to this market without experiencing any difficulty as far as the payment of the tax is concerned. For further information, read the advertisement of the Superintendent in another column.

Rare.—We learn that two negroes were recently arrested for having committed a rape upon the person of a young lady residing in South Washington precinct, in this county, during the Spring of 1866.

An investigation of the facts of the case was had before Justice Conolly, yesterday, which led to their commitment to jail, to await their trial at the next term of the Superior Court.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Internal Revenue Instructions.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—The internal revenue bureau has issued the following instructions to the United States assessors concerning the exemption of articles and products from taxation under the 10th section of the act of July last, from which it appears that packing boxes, understood and taken in the technical and mercantile signification, are exempt, but packing boxes made of paper or other material than wood, except those made for friction materials, cigar lights and wax tapers, are taxable.

All dry barrels and casks made watertight are taxable, though not used for or intended to hold fluid alone. The exemption of building stone applies only to the ordinary stone, and not to articles manufactured from stone, marble or slate. The exemption of moldings for looking-glasses and picture frames applies only to moldings used for the purposes enumerated. The law does not exempt other moldings, nor looking-glasses, nor picture frames made from wood, but it exempts articles made of five per cent. ad valorem, however made. The exemptions under the head of printing paper of all descriptions, and tarred paper for roofing and other purposes, are confined strictly to these descriptions. Paper technically known as printing paper, except blotting paper, wrapping paper, drawing paper, blotting paper, filtering paper, paper-hangings, and the like, are taxable, and paper made for tarring, if sold dry, is liable to a tax.

The exemption of flax and the manufactures thereof includes and carries all the exemptions of flax, such as flax seed, flax seedlings, etc., but a manufacturer who makes articles of dress for the wear of men, women and children from cloth of fabrics purchased in the markets, or purchased from the manufacturer thereof, is not entitled to exemption from tax.

A manufacturer who makes clothes, fabrics or articles of flax and paper, or other materials, is not to be regarded as a manufacturer of flax, nor are such manufactured products exempt from taxation. Exemptions are to be construed liberally.

The exemptions in the new law specify only the hulls of ships and other vessels. Boats propelled by sails cannot be regarded as vessels, and are not exempt from tax. Iron, brass and copper pipes are exempt, but not iron gas or water mains or pipes. Medicinal and mineral waters are exempt, but not sarsaparilla, pop, root and the like beer.

Cordage, rope and cable, made of vegetable fibre are taxable when not used as a part of the machinery of a vessel.

Photograph albums are not regarded as books within the meaning of the excise law. They are liable to an ad valorem tax of five per cent. Photographs and other sun pictures, when sold by the producer at wholesale at a price not exceeding fifteen cents each, or are used for the illustration of books, are exempt from tax. All other articles subject to an ad valorem tax of five per cent.

The exemption of the repairs of articles of all kinds does not extend to the materials used in making repairs, when such materials are in themselves taxable manufactures. The exemption of car wheels, timbles, axles and other parts of carriages, trunks and boxes made of steel used exclusively for vehicles, cars or locomotives, is restricted to the material from which they are made, and in the uses to which, and the way applied. They must be made of steel and used exclusively for vehicles, cars or locomotives.

The law exempts the finished umbrella and parasol, and also the sticks and frames made for the same, but the handle is declared by the commissioner to be taxable.

By the tenth section of the act of July, the value of bullion used in the manufacture of watches, watches and watch cases, and bullion prepared for the use of plate and watchmakers, is exempt from internal tax. All bullion which is used by manufacturers is not therefore exempt from tax, but only such as is used and prepared under the provisions of the above named section.

Bullion used in the manufacture of jewelry is taxable. Gold and silver rings, bracelets, pendants, chains, &c., are regarded as jewelry, but gold pens, timbles, spectacle frames, &c., are regarded as watches. Yarn and wools are exempt from taxation when made and sold or used as material out of which are manufactured articles of wearing apparel, such as for household use, or for clothing or for household use. All other articles are liable to taxation under the provisions of section 94. Manufacturers having on hand yarn or wools on which a tax has been paid, are entitled to pay tax only in increased value where the same are made into cloth, or fabrics, or articles.

Wire on which no tax has been previously paid as wire is liable to a tax of five per cent. upon the price at which it is sold, whether that price is sixty cents, one dollar, or two dollars per pound. The law imposes a tax of five per cent. ad valorem. The amount of tax must be at that rate. The amount of tax depends on the value of the wire.

Castings of iron of all descriptions not otherwise provided for are subject to a tax of 50 per cent. The castings otherwise provided for are malleable iron castings, unfinished castings made expressly for locks, bolts, hinges, springs, valves, steam engines, hot air and hot water furnaces, and sewing machines and castings for iron bridges.

These castings when not sold or used for any other purpose, and when a tax is assessed on them, are paid on the article of which the casting is a part, and are exempt from taxation. Castings of all descriptions made for articles, machines, or instruments other than those specially enumerated are liable to tax.

The words "castings of all descriptions" include castings of brass and other metals, or combinations of metals, as well as castings of iron. Wooden ware, as used in the section of the new law, can only be construed to exempt such articles or implements of kitchen or household use, as are made exclusively of wood, and technically known as woodenware, viz:

Tubs, pails, chopping-boards and trays, wooden, plates, dishes, spoons, knives, ladles, rollers, presses, printing machines, pestles, dippers, ironing boards, pastry and meat boards, washboards, clothes-sticks, clothes-horses, &c. Other articles made of wood, such as churns, boxes, kegs, firkins, fish kits, measures, saw frames, ladders, pumps, &c., are liable to an ad valorem tax of five per cent.

Views of an Unhappy Virginian.
Hon. A. H. H. Stuart, of Virginia, one of Mr. Fillmore's cabinet, in a letter to the people of Alexandria, Va., inviting him to speak, says:

"It is time to bury old differences in oblivion, and look to the present and the future. The Southern people have accepted the results of the war in good faith. They have abolished slavery, repudiated the Confederate debt and abandoned the dogma of secession. They have fulfilled to the letter all the conditions which were required of them as prerequisites to full restoration to their constitutional rights. These conditions were officially offered by the government of the United States, and formally accepted and performed by the Southern States. I hold, therefore, that the United States authorities cannot now, without a sacrifice of honor and good faith, recede from the bargain they made with the States of the South. If a spirit of justice and magnanimity be displayed by the people of the North towards the South, old wounds would soon be healed, old animosities will die out, and under the influence of the many wise and kind suggestions of peace, prosperity and happiness will soon be re-established throughout our borders."

To Mr. Lamm.—Marry no man who is not an admirer of true-faith.

From the Petersburg Index.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. DAVIS.

Interesting Conversations with Mrs. Davis and the Emancipated Prisoner.

We are happy to be able to lay before our readers this morning an authentic account of the interview between Mr. Davis and Mr. John D. Kelley, about which the papers have, for the past few days, had so much to say, which was mentioned in our correspondence, and which will be seen, to follow this with another letter on the same theme:

Please let me say through your paper, that I have just returned from Washington, without any Bishop, Priest or Deacon, accompanying me; that I wrote a letter to our martyr, Jeff. Davis, some weeks since, to which I got no response until the return of Mrs. Davis, he not being allowed to write; that in compliance with the spirit of that response, I hastened to Fortress Monroe, on the 17th inst., just as I had done many a time for the purpose of seeing him, and was, in fact, sentenced; that I proceeded to Washington after seeing the terrible condition of Mr. Davis, and have come back this morning, foot-sore and weary, not without hopes for the safety of him, whom I consider to be the best man in America, whom I seldom listen to, and whom I naturally hate as the devil does holy water, makes me silent for the present about my Washington visit. I will tell all about it hereafter. Mr. Davis is greatly debilitated, and declining very fast. During breakfast he gave me some rich, sparkling gems of political wisdom from Burke, with his own comments on their folly, as rich as Burke's original thoughts. I only remember one other such day spent in my life. It was at Lafayette in 1828, when Lafayette and Cardinal Mezzoforte were debating on high matters of literature and art, and I was a witness to the most absorbing of the golden treasures of liquid thought.

I arrived at the Fortress about an hour before Mr. Davis left his prison. This time I spent in reading some of the numerous papers that were brought in that morning. Presently Mrs. Davis joined me, and we had a very agreeable discussion, in which she maintained that the American people, North and South, were noble people, any on the earth; and I maintained, chiefly for argument's sake, that the aristocracy of all lands, the real aristocracy, were markedly superior to the mass of the people. I maintained that the catenations of Rome and Paris showed a gradual approximation to a certain type of character which was not even yet attained, except in the aristocracy of worth. She insisted that the heads of Phidias and Praxiteles were not equalled in modern times with Christianity and all the appliances of culture. She cited the remarks of many distinguished foreign writers who called her attention to the fact that the American people could more easily adapt themselves to, and more thoroughly embody the true principles of politeness, than any other democratic people in the world. Just then I made a wicked query that killed a good deal of this theory.

"Mrs. Davis, how do the many strangers that come here, look towards Mr. Davis?" "Ah," said she, "almost all the Northern women that come here peer through the blinds in the most indecent manner, so that we are often obliged to retire to the inner casement to avoid their rude glances."

"Mrs. Davis, no refined, instinctively polite people could, possibly, be guilty of such grossness. So you have a demimode of your own theory."

We then talked a while about education, where and by whom best administered and acquired, in which I felt proud that my own maturely formed opinions were adopted by a highly gifted and imperial mind of woman.

At this time we saw a slender, shadowy tottering form approach the door. Something in my heart told me it was Mr. Davis. Strange, mystic human heart, with its divinations and prophecies! Bible of the true, faithful God-word to every human soul, that never lies, but is true to the heart. I had known that the subject of this interview, when his word swayed an Empire composed of as noble men and as glorious God-gifted women as has ever appeared in the tide of time. I have obtained at his hands the springs of the lives of forty-seven centuries of soldiers during the war. I got off fourteen hundred soldiers, and I got off four hundred. I got his private permit to order to allow me to visit all the Federal prisons and alleys, in all lawful ways, their sufferings. I have prayed at this good man's bedside for a blessing of God upon him commensurate to the mercy he might have done for others, and he might have done for himself, should the change of time make him a suppliant for this benediction.

And now he is before me a prisoner—good God! How changed! The last time I saw him his brow seemed decked, not with a crown of intelligent glory, but with a sort of "sage" or "sage" crown of all the kindly chivalries of the past ages. Now, he was bent, broken, reeling, but oh! that voice, its timbre, cadence, tone! "I am glad to see you, Mr. Kelley; your hair is whiter than it was that beautiful Autumn morning that you prayed by my bedside in Richmond. Your heart, too, has been seared. Well, that God will heal it all, and by it all, we are ripening for the skies." "Mr. Davis, has it never occurred to you that not victorious, but defeated causes, when founded on truth and honor, are finally victorious in the flow of the ages? What was the Roman Empire, the Empire of the Caesars, sunk in the infamies of secession, and the Nazarene, crowned with Thorns and uttering those words of power amid the agonies of the cross: 'Father, forgive them, they know not what they do?'"

True, said Mr. Davis, no good cause ever dies. What was the Roman Empire, the Empire of the Caesars, sunk in the infamies of secession, and the Nazarene, crowned with Thorns and uttering those words of power amid the agonies of the cross: 'Father, forgive them, they know not what they do?'"

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